

**Minutes
Clarksville-Montgomery County
Board of Education**

February 16, 2016

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Education convened Tuesday, February 16, 2016, in the Board Room, central administration offices, 621 Gracey Avenue, Clarksville, TN. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Members present were: Josh Baggett, Chairman; Jimmie Garland, Willie Freeman, George Giles, Eula Dowdy, and Anne Murtha. Also present were: Dr. B. J. Worthington, Director of Schools; Kathryn Olita, Board Attorney; Jeanine Johnson, Chief Human Resources Officer; Dr. Bryan Johnson, Chief Academic Officer; Danny Grant, Chief Financial Officer; Jim Sumrell, Chief Operations Office, and Deb Cummings, Secretary, who documented minutes of the meeting. Members of the County Commission School Liaison Committee present were: Robert Gibbs, Ron Sokol, Arnold Hodges, Charlie Keene, and Wallace Redd.

Point of Pride

Mr. Shawn Heaston recognized the academic accomplishments of our top-ranked graduating seniors. The awards were presented to:

Clarksville High School
Valedictorian - Ainsley King
Salutatorian - Savannah King

Northwest High School
Valedictorian -- Hayley Marie Anderson
Salutatorian – Brittany Nicole Caver

Kenwood High School
Valedictorian -- Jordan Kilts
Salutatorian -- Justin Godwin

Rossvie High School
Valedictorian-Isabella Barnett
Salutatorian- Jordan Justice

MCHS
Valedictorian -- Cord Russell Beck
Salutatorian – Josephine Marie Suss

West Creek High School
Valedictorian – Brandon Crite
Salutatorian – Christopher Bland

Northeast High School
Valedictorian – Kyle William Brooks
Salutatorian – Katelyn Elizabeth Mitchell

Mr. Heaston also presented to MCHS senior Jenine Lowe an award for being named a Career and Technical Education candidate as part of the 2016 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. The Career and Technical Education candidates were nominated by their Chief State School Officers based on their accomplishments in career and technical education fields. The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by Executive Order of the President to recognize some of our nation’s most distinguished graduating seniors for their accomplishments in many areas: academic success, leadership, and service to school and community.

Public Conversation

There were no requests to address the Board at this session.

Approval of Consent Agenda

On a motion by Mr. Garland and seconded by Ms. Dowdy, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda 6-0. Items on the Consent Agenda were:

- January 12, 2016 regular session minutes
- Student Expenditures, first reading January 26, 2016
- Agreement Declaration of Trust, first reading January 26, 2016
- Surplus Property – Damaged Copier, first reading January 26, 2016
- Special Course Requests, first reading February 2, 2016
- Surplus Lockers, first reading February 2, 2016
- Surplus Podium, first reading February 2, 2016
- Surplus Band Uniforms and Disposal, first reading February 2, 2016

Policy Monitoring

The policy monitoring report for Executive Limitation – 3 – Personnel Administration was reviewed with the Board by Dr. Worthington. The policy states the Director of Schools shall assure the recruitment, employment, development, evaluation, and compensation of district employees, consultants, and contract workers in a manner necessary to enable the organization to achieve its Ends policies, and not jeopardize the fiscal integrity or the public image of the District. The motion was made by Mr. Giles to declare full compliance for this reporting period and seconded by Mr. Garland. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Reports

Goal 6 – Expand substitute staffing program. Ms. Melissa Izatt, Substitute Program Manager, presented the substitute staffing report. Ms. Izatt explained the program highlights which are cost savings, increased fill rate, and substitutes hired into permanent position within CMCSS. The fill rate summary program total for 2015-2016 was 98.7%. To ensure substitute quality, Ms. Izatt stated that observations are conducted by Sub program office personnel as well as feedback provided by the principal along with teacher/employee feedback. For 2015-2016, there have been several orientation and training programs developed and upcoming programs will include certification of SPED admin assistants as CPI instructors and enhanced training regarding appropriate use and operation of model classroom equipment. A total of 267 substitutes have been hired for permanent positions since 2014. Ms. Izatt concluded her presentation by stating the next steps of the Sub program would be focusing on the areas of speech teachers, child nutrition, and transportation.

Goal 11 – Seek alternative funding to align with district work. Dr. Kimmie Sucharski, District Data Analyst, gave an overview of the alternative grants funding by stating the focus for alternative funding is to sustain and grow existing sources. In addition, emphasis will be placed on securing new funding opportunities and enhance the capacity of all schools. Pursuit of alternative funding that aligns to the strategic work of the district is also an important factor in seeking grants. The funding amount in 2013-14 was \$16 million, 2014-2015 was \$14 million, and for midyear 2015-2016 is \$13.5 million. Dr. Sucharski noted the current activities taking place in alternative grant funding include the registration with Federal Grants, Education Grants Alert, Alliance for Education Funding Center as well as many other resources. The Alternative Funding Committee meets monthly and provides professional development on identifying alternative funding and grant writing every 9 weeks. Areas of alternative funding efforts include digital blended learning, parent engagement, safety, STEM, post-secondary opportunities, and numerous others. According to Dr. Sucharski, some of the grants currently funded are technology, career and college academies, afterschool programs, academic intervention programs and wellness, and energy savings. Examples of grants in progress are Battelle

and Army Educational Outreach, ETS, USED Pell grant funds for dual enrollment, IDEA Preschool, IDEA Discretionary ES, and 2016 Teacher Education. Dr. Sucharski concluded by saying the next steps in alternative funding will be to continue to encourage district-wide participation in the grant writing training and identify collaborative partnerships. Additional initiatives will be to seek increased innovation in the delivery of services, build an application database cross-referenced by topics to enhance district's ability to pursue alternative opportunities, and research alternative funding models to garner strategies that provide insight to expanding those prospects.

Comments

Board Members Comments

Chairman Baggett asked Dr. Sucharski if it would be possible to get information on other organizations we partner with on these grants. Ms. Murtha commented the grants make a huge difference and thanked Dr. Sucharski for all her efforts.

Director of Schools Report

Dr. Worthington echoed his appreciation for the work Dr. Sucharski has contributed to alternative funding and thanked her for her dedication to the program. Dr. Worthington commented on the problems incurred by the state last week on testing. As a result, the district will be moving to paper and pencil tests beginning on March 14 – 18. Dr. Worthington also referred to our website and Engage TV. The purpose is to assist parents stay connected which will provide them a better opportunity to assist their children. The Communications department is working with our parent groups on what parents want and need to know.

Items on the agenda having been completed, Chairman Baggett adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.



Joshua Baggett
Board Chair



B. J. Worthington
Director of Schools



Deb Cummings
Board Secretary